

MAI

MA'GRIE. *n. f.* [from *pie*, *pica*, Latin, and *mag*, contracted from *Margaret*, as *phil* is used to a *sparrow*, and *poll* to a *parrot*.] A bird sometimes taught to talk.
 Augurs, that underfoot relations have
 By *magpies* and by crows, and rooks brought forth
 The secret of man of blood. *Shakespeare, Macbeth.*
 Diffimulation is expressed by a lady wearing a vizard of
 two faces, in her right hand a *magpie*, which Spenser de-
 scribed looking through a lattice. *Peacham on Drawing.*
 So have I seen in black and white,
 A prating thing, a *magpie* height,
 Majestically stalk;
 A flatly, worthless animal,
 That plies the tongue, and wags the tail,
 All flutter, pride, and talk. *Swift.*
 MA'GYDARE. *n. f.* [*magydaris*, Lat.] An herb. *Ainsl.*
 MAID. *n. f.* [*mæben*, *mæghen*, Saxon, *maegd*, Dutch.]
 1. An unmarried woman; a virgin.
 Your wives, your daughters,
 Your matrons, and your *maids*, could not fill up
 The cistern of my lust. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
 This is a man old, wrinkl'd, faded, wither'd,
 And not a *maiden*, as thou say'st he is. *Shakespeare.*
 I am not solely led
 By nice direction of a *maiden's* eyes. *Shakespeare.*
 She employed the residue of her life to repairing of high-
 ways, building of bridges, and endowing of *maidens*. *Carew.*
 Your deluded wife had been a *maid*;
 Down on the bridal bed a *maid* she lay,
 A *maid* she rose at the approaching day. *Dryden's Jure.*
 Let me die, the maid,
 Rather than lose the spotless name of *maid*. *Dryden.*
 2. A woman servant.
 My *maid* Nerissa and myself, mean time,
 Will live as *maids* and widows. *Shakespeare, Merch. of Venice.*
 Old Tancred visited his daughter's bow'r;
 Her cheek, for such his custom was, he kiss'd,
 Then blest'd her kneeling, and her *maids* dismiss'd. *Dryd.*
 Her closet and the gods share all her time,
 Except when, only by some *maids* attended,
 She seeks some shady solitary grove.
 A thousand *maidens* ply the purple loom,
 To weave the bed, and deck the regal room. *Prior.*
 3. Female.
 If she bear a *maid* child. *Lev. xii. 5.*
 MAID. *n. f.* A species of skate fish.
 MAIDEN. *adj.*
 1. Confining of virgins.
 Nor was there one of all the nymphs that rovd
 O'er Mænalus, amid the *maiden* throng
 More favour'd once. *Addison's Ovid's Metamorph.*
 2. Fresh; new; unused; unpolluted.
 He fled his *maiden* sword. *Shakespeare.*
 When I am dead, throw me o'er
 With *maiden* flowers, that all the world may know
 I was a chaste wife to my grave. *Shakespeare, Henry VIII.*
 By this *maiden* blossom in my hand
 I scorn thee and thy fashion. *Shakespeare, Henry VI.*
 MAIDENHAIR. *n. f.* [*maiden* and *hair*.] This plant is a native
 of the southern parts of France and in the Mediterranean,
 where it grows on rocks, and old ruins, from whence it is
 brought for medicinal use.
 June is drawn in a mantle of dark grafs green, upon his
 head a garland of bents, king's-cup, and *maidenhair*. *Peach.*
 MAIDENHEAD. *n. f.* [from *maiden*.]
 MAIDENHOOD. *n. f.* [from *maiden*.]
 1. Virginity; virgin purity; freedom from contamination.
 And, for the modest lore of *maidenhood*,
 Bids me not sojourn with these armed men.
 Oh whither shall I fly? what secret wood
 Shall hide me from the tyrant? or what den. *Fairfax.*
 She hated chambers, closets, secret mewes,
 And in broad fields preserv'd her *maidenhood*. *Fairfax.*
 Example, that so terrible shews in the wreck of *maiden-*
hood, cannot for all that dissuade succession, but that they are
 lined with the twigs that threaten them. *Shakespeare.*
Maidenhood the loves, and will be swift
 To aid a virgin. *Milton.*
 2. Newness; freshness; uncontaminated state. This is now
 become a low word.
 The devil and mischance look big
 Upon the *maidenhood* of our affairs. *Shakespeare, Henry IV.*
 Some who attended with much expectation, at their first
 appearing have stained the *maidenhood* of their credit with
 some negligent performances.
 Hope's chaste kiss woovs no joys *maidenhood*,
 Then spousal rites preiudge the marriage-bed. *Crahaus.*
 MAIDENLY. *n. f.* An herb. *Ainsl.*
 MAIDENLY. *adj.* [*maiden* and *like*.] Like a maid; gentle, mo-
 dest, timorous, decent.
 'Tis not *maidenly*;

MAI

Our sex as well as I may chide you for it. *Shakespeare.*
 Come, you virtuous ass, and balshful fool; must you be
 blushing? what a *maidenly* man at arms are you become?
 MAIDHOOD. *n. f.* [from *maid*.] Virginity.
 Celsio,
 By *maidhood*, honour, and every thing,
 I love thee. *Shakespeare's Twelfth Night.*
 MAIDMARIAN. *n. f.* [*puer ludius*, Latin.] A kind of dance,
 so called from a buffoon dressed like a man, who plays tricks
 to the populace.
 A set of morrice-dancers danced a *maidmarian* with a taber
 and pipe.
 MAIDPALE. *adj.* [*maid* and *pale*.] Pale like a sick virgin.
 Change the complexion of her *maidpale* peace
 To scarlet indignation. *Shakespeare.*
 MAIDSE'RVANT. *n. f.* A female servant.
 It is perfectly right what you say of the indifference in
 common friends, whether we are sick or well; the very
maidse'rvants in a family have the same notion. *Swift.*
 MAJESTICAL. *adj.* [from *majesty*.]
 1. August; having dignity; grand; imperial; regal; great of
 appearance.
 They made a doubt
 Prefence *majestical* would put him out:
 For, quoth the king, an angel shalt thou see,
 Yet fear not thou, but speak audaciously. *Shakespeare.*
 Get the start of the *majestical* world,
 And bear the palm alone. *Shakespeare, Julius Caesar.*
 We do it wrong, being so *majestical*,
 To offer it the shew of violence. *Shakespeare, Hamlet.*
 In his face
 Sate meekness, heighten'd with *majestical* grace. *Denham.*
 A royal robe he wore with graceful pride,
 Embroider'd sandals glitter'd as he trod,
 And forth he mov'd, *majestical* as a god. *Pope's Odyssey.*
 2. Stately; pompous; splendid.
 It was no mean thing which he purposed; to perform a
 work so *majestical* and stately was no small charge. *Hooker.*
 3. Sublime; elevated; lofty.
 Which passage doth not only argue an infinite abundance,
 both of artizans and materials, but likewise of magnificent
 and *majestical* desires in every common person. *Wotton.*
 The least portions must be of the epick kind; all must be
 grave, *majestical*, and sublime. *Dryden.*
 MAJESTICALLY. *adv.* [from *majesty*.] With dignity; with
 grandeur.
 From Italy a wand'ring ray
 Of moving light illuminates the day;
 Northward the bends, *majestically* bright,
 And here she fixes her imperial light. *Graville.*
 So have I seen in black and white
 A prating thing, a *majestic* height,
 Majestically stalk;
 A flatly, worthless animal,
 That plies the tongue, and wags the tail,
 All flutter, pride, and talk. *Swift.*
 MAJESTY. *n. f.* [*majestas*, Latin.]
 1. Dignity; grandeur; greatness of appearance; an appearance
 awful and solemn.
 The voice of the Lord is full of *majesty*. *Psal. xxix. 4.*
 The Lord reigneth; he is clothed with *majesty*. *Psal. xciii.*
 Amidst
 Thick clouds and dark, doth heav'n's all-ruling fire
 Chuse to reside, his glory unobscur'd,
 And with the *majesty* of darkness round
 Covers his throne. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. ii.*
 Great, without pride, in sober *majesty*. *Pope.*
 2. Power; sovereignty.
 Thine, O Lord, is the power and *majesty*. *1 Chron. xxix.*
 To the only wife God be glory and *majesty*. *Jude v. 25.*
 He gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father *majesty*. *Dan. v. 18.*
 3. Dignity; elevation.
 The first in loftiness of thought surpass'd,
 The next in *majesty*. *Dryden.*
 The title of kings and queens.
 Most royal *majesty*,
 I crave no more than what your highness offer'd,
 Nor will you tender less. *Shakespeare, King Lear.*
 I have a garden opens to the sea,
 From whence I can your *majesty* convey
 To some high friend.
 He, who had been always believed a creature of the queen,
 visited her *majesty* but once in six weeks. *Clarendon.*
 I walk in awful state above
 The *majesty* of heaven. *Dryden.*
 MAIL. *n. f.* [*maille*, Fr. *maglia*, Italian, from *maille*, the mesh
 of a net. *Skinner*.] A quo fonte derivatur multa vitorum
 nomina pr. ut *mailbird*, long or *mailor*, breich-vail clypeatus,
 vulgo broch-weel. Hy-vail, Howel boldly armed. *Rowland.*
 1. A coat of steel network worn for defence.
 Some

MAI

Some shirts of *mail*, some coats of plate put on,
 Some dond a surcase, some a corset bright. *Fairfax, b. i.*
 Being advised to wear a privy coat, the duke gave this an-
 swer, That against any popular fury, a shirt of *mail* would
 be but a silly defence.
 Some wore coat-armour, imitating scale, *Wotton.*
 And next their skin were stubborn shirts of *mail*;
 Some wore a breast-plate. *Dryden's Knight's Tale.*
 2. Any armour.
 We strike the lobster of his scarlet *mail*. *Gay.*
 3. A postman's bundle; a bag. [*maile*, *mailette*, French.]
 To MAIL. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To arm defensively; to
 cover, as with armour.
 The *mailed* Mars shall on his altar sit
 Up to the cars in blood. *Shakespeare, Henry IV. p. i.*
 I am thy married wife,
 And thou a prince, protector of this land;
 Methinks I should not thus be led along,
 Mail'd up in flame, with papers on my back. *Shakespeare.*
 To MAIM. *v. a.* [*maian*, Gothic, to cut off; *maignier*, to
 maim, old French; *maimais*, Armoric; *manus*, Lat.] To
 deprive of any necessary part; to cripple by loss of a limb.
 You wrought to be a legate; by which power
 You *maim'd* the jurisdiction of all bishops. *Shakespeare.*
 The multitude wonder'd when they saw the dumb to speak,
 the *maim'd* to be whole, and the lame to walk; and they
 glorified God. *Matth. xv. 31.*
 MAIM. *n. f.* [from the verb.]
 1. Privation of some essential part; lameness, produced by a
 wound or amputation.
 Surely there is more cause to fear, least the want thereof
 be a *maim*, than the use a blemish. *Hooker, b. v.*
 Humphry, duke of Glo'ster, scarce himself,
 That bears to shew a *maim*; two pulls at once;
 A lady banish'd, and a limb lost off? *Shakespeare, Henry VI.*
 2. Injury; mischief.
 Not so deep a *maim*,
 As to be call forth in the common air,
 Have I deserved. *Shakespeare, Rich. II.*
 3. Essential defect.
 A noble author esteems it to be a *maim* in history, that
 the acts of parliament should not be recited. *Hayward.*
 MAIN. *adj.* [*maigne*, old French; *magnum*, Latin.]
 1. Principal; chief; leading.
 In every grand or *main* publick duty which God requireth
 at the hands of his church, there is, besides that matter and
 form wherein the essence thereof consisteth, a certain out-
 ward fashion, whereby the same is in decent manner admini-
 stered. *Hooker, b. iv.*
 There is a history in all mens lives,
 Figuring the nature of the times deceased;
 The which observ'd a man may prophesy,
 With a near aim, of the main chance of things
 As yet not come to life. *Shakespeare, Henry IV.*
 He is superstitious grown of late,
 Quite from the main opinion he had once
 Of fantasy, of dreams, and ceremonies. *Shakespeare.*
 There arose three notorious and *main* rebellions, which
 drew several armies out of England. *Davies on Ireland.*
 The nether flood,
 Which now divided into four *main* streams,
 Runs diverse. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. iv.*
 I should be much for open war, O peers,
 If what was urg'd
 Main reason to persuade immediate war,
 Did not dissuade me most. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. ii.*
 All creatures look to the *main* chance, that is, food and
 propagation. *L'Estrange's Fables.*
 Our main interest is to be as happy as we can, and as long
 as possible. *Tillotson's Sermons.*
 Nor tell me in a dying father's tone,
 Be careful still of the *main* chance, my son;
 Put out the principal in trusty hands;
 Live on the use, and never dip thy lands. *Dryden's Pers.*
 Whilst they have busied themselves in various learning,
 they have been wanting in the one *main* thing. *Baker.*
 Nor is it only in the *main* design, but they have followed
 him in every episode. *Pope's Pref. to the Iliad.*
 2. Violent; strong; overpowering; vast.
 Think, you question with a Jew.
 You may as well go stand upon the beach,
 And bid the *main* flood bate his usual height. *Shakespeare.*
 Scell thou what rage
 Transports our adversary, whom no bounds,
 Nor yet the *main* abyss,
 Wide interrupts, can hold? *Milton's Par. Lost, b. iii.*
 3. Gross; continuing the chief part.
 We ourselves will follow
 In the *main* battle, which on either side
 Shall be well winged with our chiefest horle. *Shakespeare.*

MAI

All abreast *Shakespeare, Henry VI.*
 Charg'd our *main* battle's front.
 4. Important; forcible.
 This young prince, with a train of young noblemen and
 gentlemen, but not with any *main* army, came over to take
 possession of his new patrimony. *Davies on Ireland.*
 That which thou aight
 Believ'st to *main* to our success, I bring. *Mil. Par. Lost.*
 MAIN. *n. f.*
 1. The gross; the bulk; the greater part.
 The *main* of them may be reduced to language, and an
 improvement in wisdom, by seeing men. *Locke.*
 2. The sum; the whole; the general.
 They allowed the liturgy and government of the church
 of England as to the *main*. *King Charles.*
 These notions concerning coinage have, for the *main*, been
 put into writing above twelve months. *Locke.*
 3. The ocean.
 A substitute shines brightly as a king,
 Until a king be by; and then his state
 Empties itself, as doth an inland brook
 Into the *main* of waters. *Shakespeare, Merchant of Venice.*
 Where's the king?
 Bids the wind blow the earth into the sea;
 Or swell the curl'd waters 'bove the *main*,
 That things might change. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*
 He fell, and struggling in the *main*,
 Cry'd out for helping hands, but cry'd in vain. *Dryden.*
 Say, why should the collected *main*
 Itself within itself contain?
 Why to its caverns should it sometimes creep,
 And with delighted silence sleep
 On the lov'd bosom of its parent deep? *Prior.*
 4. Violence; force.
 He 'gan advance
 With huge force, and insupportable *main*,
 And towards him with dreadful fury pounce. *Fa. Qu.*
 With might and *main*.
 He halted to get up again. *Hudibras, p. i.*
 With might and *main* they chae'd the mur'd'rous fox,
 With brazen trumpets, and inflated box. *Dryden.*
 5. [From *manus*, Latin.] A hand at dice.
 Were it good,
 To let the exact wealth of all our states
 All at one cast; to let so rich a *main*
 In the nice hazard of one doubtful hour. *Shakespeare.*
 To pass our tedious hours away,
 We throw a merry *main*. *Earl Dorset's Song.*
 Writing is but just like dice,
 And lucky *main*s make people wise:
 That jumbled words, if fortune throw them,
 Shall, well as Dryden, form a poem. *Prior.*
 6. The continent.
 In 1589 we turned challengers, and invaded the *main* of
 Spain. *Bacon's War with Spain.*
 7. A hamper. *Ainsl.*
 MAINLAND. *n. f.* [*main* and *land*.] Continent.
 Ne was it island then, ne was it pay'd
 Amid the ocean waves,
 But was all desolate, and of some thought,
 By sea to have been from the Celtick *mainland* brought. *Fairy Queen, b. ii.*
 Those whom Tyber's holy forests hide,
 Or Circe's hills from the *mainland* divide. *Dryden's Æn.*
 MAINLY. *adv.* [from *main*.]
 1. Chiefly; principally.
 A brutish vice,
 Inductive *mainly* to the sin of Eve. *Milton's Par. Lost.*
 They are *mainly* reducible to three. *Mare.*
 The metallick matter now found in the perpendicular in-
 tervals of the strata, was originally lodged in the bodies of
 those strata, being interspersed amongst the matter, whereof
 the said strata *mainly* consist. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*
 2. Greatly; powerfully.
 It was observed by one, that himself came hardly to a lit-
 tle riches, and very easily to great riches: for when a man's
 stock is come to that, that he can expect the prime of mar-
 kets, and overcome those bargains, which, for their great-
 ness, are few mens money, and be partner in the industries
 of younger men, he cannot but increase *mainly*. *Bacon.*
 MAINMAST. *n. f.* [*main* and *mast*.] The chief or middle
 mast.
 One dire shot,
 Close by the board the prince's *mainmast* bore. *Dryden.*
 A Dutchman, upon breaking his leg by a fall from a *main-*
mast, told the standers by, it was a mercy it was not his
 neck. *Spectator, N^o. 574.*
 MAINPURNABLE. *adj.* Bailable; that may be admitted to give
 surety.